

PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Dinesh O. Shah, et al.

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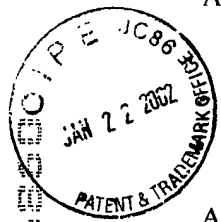
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

For: METHODS FOR THE
SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV
ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Missing Parts
Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Attorney Docket No.: 6821.US.01

Date of Deposit: 1-30-02
Kimberly A. Iorio 1-30-02
Kimberly A. Iorio Date



**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR A UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES, the specification of which is enclosed herewith.

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-mentioned specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge a duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1,56.

Claim to benefit of foreign application(s) as follows:

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §1.19 for the following foreign applications for patent or inventor's certificate.

NONE

The following foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate have a filing date earlier than the filing date of the application(s) identified above.

NONE

Claim to benefit of earlier US application(s) as follows:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §1.20 of the following earlier-filed United States patent application(s). Insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior US application(s) in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. §1.12, first paragraph, I acknowledge a duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 which came into existence between the filing date(s) of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT filing date of this application.

NONE

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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

NONE

I hereby appoint the following Attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and any continuation or divisional application(s) based hereon, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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